

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-16 are pending. Claims 13-26 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 5, 13, and 19 have been amended. Claims 16 and 20 are canceled. Claims 1, 3-5 and 7-15, 17-19, and 21-26 remain in the case.

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to further examination of the present application, and respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the reasons that follow. This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, along with appropriate defined status identifiers.

Method claim 13 has been amended to be commensurate in scope with the product of claim 1, and therefore rejoinder and examination of claims 13-26 under the doctrine set forth in *In re Ochiai* is proper.

The abstract has been objected to, and a new abstract has been provided.

Claims 1, 3, 8, 10 and 12 are rejected under Section 102(b) based on Aida *et al.* Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under Section 103(a) based on Aida *et al.* in view of Funayama *et al.* Claim 7 is rejected under Section 103(a) based on Aida *et al.* in view of Marzocchi. Claim 9 is rejected under Section 103(a) based on Aida *et al.* in view of Usuki *et al.* Claim 11 is rejected under Section 103(a) based on Aida *et al.* in view of Tanaka *et al.* Thus, all of the claims have been rejected based on Aida *et al.*, taken alone or in view of a secondary reference. Aida is cited as teaching a thermoplastic resin which incorporates an inorganic filler, flame retardant agent, glass fiber and crosslinking agent.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the trifunctional crosslinking agent is adsorbed onto the inorganic filler, a recitation already present in method claim 13. This feature would not have been obvious based on Aida *et al.*, alone, or in combination with any of the cited secondary references. In this regard, moreover, the examiner's attention is drawn to Comparative Example 2 of the specification, which shows that this adsorbing step solves problems in prior art products. In this example, a resin composition was obtained under the same conditions as in Example 1, except that 4.5 parts by weight of talc having a mean particle size of 2 μm as the inorganic filler, 1.0 part by weight of black iron oxide having a mean particle size of 1 to 2 μm as the coloring agent, 11.3 parts by weight of N,N',N"-triallyl isocyanurate as the cross-linking agent, 57.8 parts by weight of a copolymer of 66/6

nylon (2123B, manufactured by Ube Industries, Ltd.) as the thermoplastic polymer, and 0.4 parts by weight of an antioxidant (IRGANOX 1010, manufactured by Ciba-Geigy AG) were *simultaneously* mixed, with which was then mixed and kneaded 25.0 parts by weight of a glass fiber having been subjected to a surface treatment with a silane coupling agent and then coated with a urethane resin as the reinforcing fiber, followed by injection molding and irradiation. As compared to Example 1, Comparative Example 2 is deficient with respect to any one item of the molding properties, appearance, heat resistance, durability, mechanical characteristics, electric characteristics, and flame retardancy (paragraph 0141) and Table 5.

As described in paragraph 0023, by adsorbing the crosslinking agent onto the inorganic filler, dispersion of the crosslinking agent is performed uniformly, and the physical properties of the resulting resin molded article become uniform. Thus, it is possible to obtain a resin molded article which is excellent in all of heat resistance, mechanical characteristics, electric characteristics, dimensional stability, flame retardancy, and molding properties. This is further discussed in paragraphs 0065 and 0088.

If there are any problems with this response, or if the examiner believes that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application, Applicant's attorney would appreciate a telephone call. In view of the foregoing, it is believed none of the references, taken singly or in combination, disclose the claimed invention. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, the notice of which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATE

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